

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 245445

12

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AF-10 IO-14

AGR-20 SAJ-01 NIC-01 /171 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:GHUMPHREY:LM

APPROVED BY EUR - JOHN A. ARMITAGE

NEA:RPDAVIES

EB/ITP/EWT:SEYMOUR GOODMAN

EUR/NE:ANNE PINKNEY

----- 009895

R 150047Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 245445

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RO, NO, XF, UR

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN INTEREST IN SOVIET MATTERS; CEASESCU
VISIT

1. SUMMARY. NORWEGIAN CHARGE (SVERRE) CALLED ON DEPUTY
EUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY (ARMITAGE) DEC 13 FOR READOUT ON
VARIOUS SOVIET MATTERS, INCLUDING SOVIET ROLE IN POST-
CRISIS MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS AND PROSPECTS FOR US-
SOVIET ECONOMIC RELATIONS. CHARGE ALSO INQUIRED ABOUT
CEAUSESCU VISIT TO US.

2. MIDDLE EAST. SVERRE ASKED ABOUT SEEMING RELUCTANCE
OF SOVIETS TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN POST-CRISIS MIDDLE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 245445

EAST MATTERS. ARMITAGE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT SOVIETS HAVE

BEEN ON DIPLOMATIC SIDELINES NOT BY CHOICE BUT BECAUSE OF PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, IN WHICH US NOT USSR WAS IN POSITION TO PLAY CENTRAL ROLE. MOSCOW HAS NOT ATTACKED SIX-POINT PROGRAM NEGOTIATED BY SECRETARY BUT HAS QUIBBLED AT IT, PERHAPS BECAUSE THEY HELD ON MORE FIRMLY THAN EGYPTIANS ON QUESTION OF RETURN TO CEASEFIRE LINE OF OCTOBER 22. SOVIETS CONTINUE, HOWEVER, TO VIEW MIDDLE EAST AS TEST OF THEIR ROLE AND COMMITMENTS AS GLOBAL POWER, AND WILL ATTACH A GREAT IMPORTANCE TO BEING A VISIBLE CENTRAL PARTY IN NEGOTIATIONS AND ANY SETTLEMENT.

3. US-USSR ECONOMIC COOPERATION. SVERRE WONDERED IF SOVIET ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES AND NEED TO INCREASE CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION WILL LEAD TO GREATER SOVIET INTEREST IN US AND OTHER WESTERN COOPERATION. ARMITAGE SAID THIS INTEREST HAD BEEN PRESENT FOR SOME TIME AND CONTINUED, BUT CAUTIONED THAT SOVIET ECONOMY SEEMS PRESENTLY TO BE DOING REASONABLY WELL, DESPITE PAST AGRICULTURAL DISASTERS AND GENERAL ONGOING DIFFICULTIES. THERE DO NOT APPEAR TO BE PROXIMATE INDICATIONS OF GREATER SOVIET DIFFICULTIES AND CONSEQUENT RECENTLY HEIGHTENED INTEREST IN TRADE WITH WEST. US-SOVIET TRADE IS GROWING SUBSTANTIALLY IN VOLUME AND IN PROPORTION OF US EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURED GOODS, INCLUDING TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT FOR ENTIRE PLANTS. ARMITAGE NOTED THAT CONGRESSIONAL ACTION WHICH WOULD RESTRICT CREDITS AND MOST FAVORED NATION TREATMENT FOR THE USSR POSES SOME UNCERTAINTIES. HOWEVER, THE PRESIDENT HAS REAFFIRMED US INTENTION TO WORK TO MEET COMMITMENTS TO EXPAND TRADE, AND WE HAVE SEEN NO SPECIFIC HESITATION BY OTHER SIDE TO GOING AHEAD.

4. LNG PROJECTS. IN REPLY TO SVERRE'S QUERY, ARMITAGE SAID THAT PROSPECTIVE US PARTICIPANTS IN LNG PROJECTS WITH THE USSR WERE STILL ENGAGED IN DEFINING POSSIBLE PROJECTS AND THEY HAD RECENTLY HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIET DELEGATION HERE IN US. US GOVT HAS ENCOURAGED FIRMS TO DELINEATE PROJECTS BUT CANNOT TAKE ANY FINAL POSITION UNTIL TERMS OF PROPOSAL ARE CLARIFIED. CURRENT OIL PROBLEM HAS OF COURSE CAUSED NATIONAL EFFORT TO EXAMINE WHOLE ENERGY SITUATION, INCLUDING QUESTION OF

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 245445

NATIONAL DEPENDENCE ON OUTSIDE SOURCES.

5. CEAUSESCU VISIT. ARMITAGE DESCRIBED RESULTS OF VISIT IN GENERAL TERMS, ALONG LINES OF STATE 241960 AND 242482. TO QUESTION OF WHETHER ROMANIANS RAISED SUBJECT OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH USSR AND PRC, ARMITAGE REPLIED THAT NOT MUCH WAS SAID ON THIS SUBJECT, AND NOTED THAT ROMANIA SEEMS TO BE TAKING A RELATIVELY LOW PROFILE PRESENTLY

ON SINO-SOVIET MATTERS.

6. OTHER TOPICS TOUCHED ON BY SVERRE AND DISCUSSED
BRIEFLY IN GENERAL TERMS INCLUDED BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO
INDIA, SOVIET-PRC RELATIONS, AND FRG RELATIONS WITH
CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND EASTERN EUROPE. RUSH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, PEACE TALKS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE245445
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GHUMPHREY:LM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731222/aaaaaqee.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <03-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORWEGIAN INTEREST IN SOVIET MATTERS; CEASESCU VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, RO, NO, XF, UR, US, (CEASESCU)
To: OSLO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005